

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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DATE DISTR. 12 July 1954

SUBJECT Purchase of West German RS-337 Tubes for
Emergency Transmitters on Russian Vessels

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1. On 1 April 1954 VEB Funkwerk Koeppenick sent a letter to the Material Supply Department of HV RFT in the Ministry for Machine Construction. This letter was classified strictly confidential and sent by messenger to the Main Administration against receipt.
2. The letter concerned a Russian order for delivery by VEB Funkwerk Koeppenick of 180 60/80 watt emergency transmitters to be used for a number of Russian sea vessels. The plant cannot deliver the required transmitters unless sufficient numbers of RS-337 tubes are made available.
3. Russian representatives strongly pointed out in a conference with representatives of HV RFT held on 10 March 1954 in the Russian Sea Registry in Rostock that only the directly heated version of the RS-337 will be accepted and that all ships with transmitters using other types of tubes will be rejected. Two tubes and fourteen spare tubes per transmitter have been requested by the Russians.
4. The following is a list of the vessels to be equipped with the emergency transmitters:

2 transmitters	-	SOVIETSKY SOYUZ
4 transmitters	-	3,000-ton freighter
10 transmitters	-	95-m passenger ships
10 transmitters	-	65-m passenger ships
2 transmitters	-	ADMIRAL NAYTIMOV
1 transmitter	-	SESTRORETSK
20 transmitters	-	refrigerator ships
60 transmitters	-	luggers
5 transmitters	-	sea tankers
20 transmitters	-	refrigerating luggers
2 transmitters	-	VORONEZH
2 transmitters	-	YURY DOLGORUKI
2 transmitters	-	KASTOR
20 transmitters	-	logger-Stralsund
20 transmitters	-	refrigerator ships

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6. On 26 April 1954, Minister Heinrich Rau of the Ministry for Machine Construction sent a letter to Minister for Foreign and Domestic Trade Gregor in which he urgently demanded import from the West of 3,000 units of the directly-heated RS-337 tubes. Rau stated that orders for the import of these tubes were given to DIA-Maschinenimport. He added that DIA indicated the price of the tubes to be between 300 and 400 DMW per unit. However, DIA has an offer from an unspecified West Berlin trade firm according to which the tubes can be delivered at the extremely favorable price of 39 DMW per unit, so that the total price of the tubes would only amount to 117,000 DMW. The tubes in question have already been tested and found satisfactory. RAU urged Gregor to take every necessary step to procure the tubes in the fastest possible way.

LIBRARY SUBJECT AND AREA CODES

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